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SECURITY INFORMATION

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Rumania

SUBJECT Sovromlemn (Timber), Bucharest

NO. OF PAGES 2

**SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.**

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1. Sovromlemn headquarters are located in Bucharest.
2. The sawmills produce standard qualities of beech and fir wood. In 1950 the official price for industrial timber was 2,100 lei per cubic meters. The Soviets, however, obtained this timber as war damages and paid only between 600 and 700 lei per cubic meters. Up to 1950, the main office in Bucharest employed about a hundred officials. Later their number was reduced to 50, as most of the branches began working independently. The managers of Sovromlemn, who are Soviets wearing civilian clothes, were always armed when they visited the forests and saw mills as they said that there were robbers and partisans in the mountains of Dorna Vatra. The number of Sovromlemn workers in the whole country in 1950 was between 1,400 and 1,500. By 1952 this number had increased to approximately 2,000. Thirty to forty per cent of the officials and 10 to 15 percent of the workers are women. The timber is cut mainly with hand equipment, and not with mechanical saws. Sovromlemn is directed from Moscow, which also receives its balance sheets. Copies of the balance sheet are sent to the Rumanian Ministry of Light Industry (Timber Department) and to the Sovrom Bank for their information. The saw mills are guarded day and night by armed peasants. Nobody is allowed to enter without a special permit.
3. The timber to be exported to the USSR by land is sent to Sighet, Radauti, or Galati, where it is transferred from normal freight cars to those using Soviet gauge. Timber which is to go by sea to the orient, Argentina, or Britain is loaded in Constanța.
4. The largest saw mill in Rumania, which is equipped with Soviet machinery, was built in 1950 at Vaducri, (17 kms. from Piatra Neamt, opposite the

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village of Vaduri). It began work in 1951.

5. Political prisoners are sent to Bicz, where a dam for the large hydro-electric power station is being built.

6.



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